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STORY

UTAKO'S 172CM TALL (5'7") AND STANDS OUT, BUT IS VERY MODEST. SHE BECOMES INTERESTED IN THE BOY WHO SITS NEXT TO HER IN CLASS, HARADA. SHE'S A LITTLE PUZZLED BY HARADA'S STRAIGHT-FORWARD ATTITUDE, BUT IS AWARE OF EACH OTHER'S FONDNESS FOR EACH OTHER. THE CLOSER SHE BECAME TO HARADA, THE MORE FEELINGS SHE HAS FOR HIM. UNTIL ONE DAY, SHE ACCIDENTALLY WHISPERED "I LIKE YOU" TO HIM!

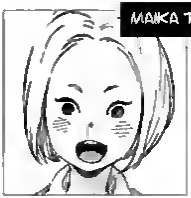
CHARACTERS

UTAKO FURUYA

172CM (5'7") TALL AND A BIT SHY 1ST YEAR. GOT THE NICKNAME "UTAMARU" FROM HER FRIEND MANKA.

NAOYUKI HARADA

HAS LOTS OF FRIENDS AND STANDS OUT IN HIS CLASS. CARES A LOT ABOUT UTAKO



MANKA TAISHI

CLOSE FRIENDS WITH UTAKO AND IS ALWAYS HAPPY. ALSO VERY SHORT.

NOZOMU AKIO

HARADA'S EX-GIRLFRIEND FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL. ALSO KNOWS MANKA FROM THE SAME TIME.

MASUMI UCHI

CHILDHOOD FRIENDS OF HARADA AND AKIO.

SHUN INUI

TRUANT CLASSMATE. LIKES MUSIC.

Stand Up!

[スタンドアップ] CHAPTER 9

HE ALWAYS MADE ME FEEL UNPLEASANT.
BUT I'M NOT SHEDDING ANY TEARS FOR HIM ANYMORE...
rattle
rattle

In the spring of my first year in middle school,
I started
growing very fast.
HEY, UTAKO-CHAN, WHAT KIND OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ARE YOU DOING?
EH?
EXTRA -CURRICULAR ACTIVITY?
CLUB ACTIVITIES ARE COMPULSORY
THAT'S RIGHT...
IF YOU STILL DON'T KNOW, WHAT ABOUT ENTERING THE TENNIS CLUB TOGETHER?
I TOOK SOME CALLIGRAPHY LESSONS
IS THAT SO? SO YOU HAVEN'T DECIDED ON A CLUB YET?
CLUB ACTIVITIES, HUH?
...I SUCK AT SPORTS.
I DON'T WANT TO JOIN A CLUB WHERE I'M LIKELY TO PULL PEOPLE'S LEGS.
WERE THERE ANY CULTURAL CLUBS IN OUR SCHOOL...?
...WILL YOU LET ME THINK ABOUT IT FOR A BIT?
YUP! I UNDERSTAND.

...I DON'T HAVE ANY ARTISTIC SKILLS
AND I HAVEN'T WORKED WITH ANYTHING OTHER THAN A RECORDER.
文化部
・吹奏楽部
・美術部
YOU'RE IN THE WAY, GIANT.
...TINY.
SHO
AH.
WA
VE
SORRY!
TOBA -KUN,
DID YOU ALREADY DECIDE ON CLUBS?

AH,
UTAKO-CHAN
KANA-CHAN SAID THAT SHE'LL ALSO JOIN THE TENNIS CLUB
UMM...
FROM NOW ON, I'LL HAVE LOTS OF CHANCES TO GET ALONG WITH THEM. MAYBE I SHOULD JOIN THE TENNIS CLUB.
WHICH MAKES ME THINK, THERE ARE LOTS OF FACES I DON'T KNOW.
THEN, UTA-CHAN, HAVE YOU INVITED ANOTHER PERSON?
YOU CAN'T JOIN THE TENNIS CLUB ON YOUR OWN, RIGHT?
THEN,
ME TOO
...
WAH...
.....
...I'LL THINK ABOUT IT A BIT LONGER AFTER ALL.
EVERYBODY'S SEARCHING FOR FRIENDS,
'CAUSE DURING PRACTICE, WE'LL BE DIVIDED AND ALL.

...AM I, BY ANY CHANCE, TOO LATE?
INVITING SOME -ONE... DO I WANT TO DO TENNIS...?
FURUYA,
HAVE YOU STILL NOT DECIDED ON A CLUB?
THE TRACK CLUB DOESN'T HAVE MANY GIRLS. SO WE'D B GLAD IF YOU JOINED...
chatter
chatter
chatter
chatter
1年1組
...YES.
I...DON'T HAVE ANYTHING.
THIS 1ST YEAR GIRL NAMED FURUYA
EVEN WHEN SHE DOES THE HIGH JUMP, SHE'S NO GOOD.
WHAT'S WITH THAT...IS SHE JUST PRETEN -DING?
ISN'T SHE ONLY TALL?
WHEN I ASKED HER, SHE SAID SHE WAS AROUND 168...
HOW TALL IS SHE?
IT FEELS LIKE ONLY THE RECORDS KNOW HOW MUCH SHE GROWS.

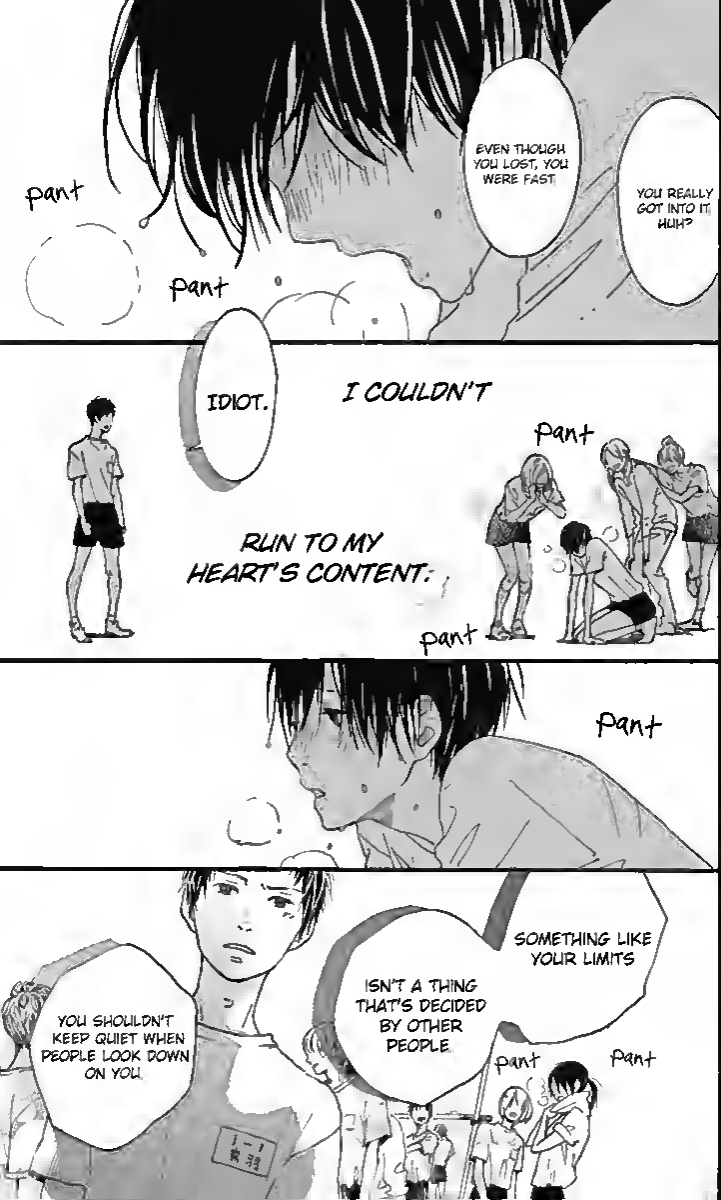
SPEAKING OF WHICH, YOU KNOW THAT FIRST YEAR TOBA'S AMAZING?
HE BEAT A SENPAI IN A 100 M RACE.
BEEEEP
pant
pant
HEY,
Nnnt
Nnnt
Neeext!
...I WAS WATCHING JUST NOW.
WHAT WAS THAT WITH YOU CUTTING CORNERS.
AS IF YOU HAVE NO MOTIVATION. GO HOME. JUST BEING HERE'S ANNOYING.

...I HAVEN'T BEEN TOLD BY THE TEACHER TO GO HOME.
...TOBA -KUN.
SMALL IN STATURE, BUT FAST ON HIS FEET.
I WAS TOLD THAT HE'S THE ACE AMONG THE FIRST YEARS.
I DON'T WANT TO BE COMPARED TO SUCH A PERSON.
...THAT I'M NOT SERIOUSLY JOINING IN ON PRACTICE,
ARE YOU GOING TO TELL SENSEI?

TEACHER
.....
...I'M NOT RUNNING BECAUSE I LIKE IT...
FURUYA SEEMS TO HAVE SOME STRENGTH LEFT OVER, SO
PLEASE WATCH HER RUN A LONG DISTANCE TO TRY IT OUT.
.....
EH??
JUST NOW, WHAT EXACTLY ...
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU HAVE STAMINA.
LET'S TRY
THAT'S RIGHT, TADOKORO!
WON'T YOU JOIN FURUYA ON THE 1000M TRACK?

ARE YOU GOING TO SAY THAT YOU CAN'T DO IT?
DO IT.
IF IT'S STILL NO GOOD, ONLY THEN CAN YOU SAY IT.
'CAUSE I'LL BE MAKING FUN OF YOU AS MUCH AS I WANT.
.....
Just because someone beat a senpai isn't she getting ahead of herself?
Kind of imprudent, huh?
It's impossible right? The amount of practice is just too different
Why is she running with Keiko?
A first year's running
AM, I THAT MUCH OF A BOTHER?
DID YOU WANT ME TO STOP THAT BADLY?
QUICKLY PREPARE YOURSELF.

THE TIME.
ON YOUR MARK
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
GET READY
doki
FOR JUST PRETENDING.
SORRY
HUH?
I'M JUST TALL.
POP
THAT REALLY WAS ALL THERE WAS TO IT.
THINKING LIKE THAT WAS SOMEWHAT FRUSTRATING.
IN THE MIDST OF RUNNING, I SAW SENPAI'S BACK AND FOUND MYSELF THINKING I DON'T WANT TO LOSE.
YOUR TIME GOT HALF A SECOND BETTER!
LITAKO THIS IS AMAZING!


pant
pant
EVEN THOUGH YOU LOST, YOU WERE FAST.
YOU REALLY GOT INTO IT, HUH?
IDIOT.
I COULDN'T RUN TO MY HEART'S CONTENT.
pant
pant
pant
SOMETHING LIKE YOUR LIMITS
ISN'T A THING THAT'S DECIDED BY OTHER PEOPLE.
pant
pant
YOU SHOULDN'T KEEP QUIET WHEN PEOPLE LOOK DOWN ON YOU.

TOBA MADE UTAKO CRY!
SHUT UP.
BUT, BECAUSE I'M TALL, I COULD FIND IT QUICKLY.
TOBA-KUN'S ALWAYS SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE.
AFTER THAT, TOBA-KUN'S EXISTENCE
BECAME THE REASON FOR ME TO CONTINUE TRACK AND FIELD FOR THREE YEARS.

千星ヶ崎駅
We won't forgive you for making Utako cry
TOBA, YOU'RE ALWAYS JUST ATTACKING UTAKO
kya
IT WOULDN'T SUIT YOU.
UTAKO WHY DON'T YOU LET YOUR HAIR GROW LONGER?
IT'D SUIT YOU.
kya
Your ears are cute
kya
No way these huge ears.
.....
...I WONDER IF HE HATES ME
I-IT'S A SECRET!
HEY, UTAKO BY ANY CHANCE
Our girls are too pale
Ah~ How scary~
NEVERTHELESS, I'M GLAD.
HEY, FURUYA.
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU LIKE ME?

WE DON'T FIT EACH OTHER, YOU KNOW?
...I DON'T KNOW ABOUT IT.
TOBA-KUN ALWAYS LAUGHS.
THEN THIS TALK'S FINISHED, HUH?
AS IF HE'S SEEING THROUGH THINGS.

I WASN'T ABLE TO HOLD CONVERSATIONS EITHER. UP UNTIL GRADUATION I LET MY HAIR GROW LONGER, WHICH TOBA-KUN SAID "DIDN'T SUIT ME"
AFTER THAT, I BECAME TOO SCARED TO STAND NEXT TO HIM.
BECAUSE I RETIRED FROM CLUB ACTIVITIES, I DIDN'T HAVE ANY SHARED STORIES TO TALK ABOUT.
AND THEN IT ENDED.
MY MIDDLE SCHOOL LIFE THAT WAS FILLED WITH TOBA-KUN.
ALL OF IT...

EVEN THOUGH IT'S BEEN TWO MONTHS SINCE GRADUATION, I STILL THINK BACK EVERY KNOW AND THEN.
BUT THAT GRADUALLY BECAME FAINTER AND FAINTER.
shaa
shaa
...
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.

shaa
shaa
shaa
shaa
shaa
shaa
MY MEMORIES ARE VAGUE.
THEY'RE NOT THAT KIND OF VIVID THINGS.

...TOBA-KUN.

CHIMI -GASAKI

shaa
shaa
shaa
shaa
shaa
shaa
WHAT ARE YOU FREEZING FOR?

HE GREW TALLER...
OH,
IT FEELS LIKE FURUYA GOT SMALLER...
...AH.

IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
throb
throb
!
SQUEEZE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I'M ON MY WAY HOME
REGARDLESS, COME HERE.
LONG TIME NO SEE.
Ha ha ha
IS THAT REALLY TOBA-KUN?
ba-dump
ba-dump
ba-dump
EH?
WHAT?
COME TO THINK OF IT..
AREN'T YOU A BIT FAR AWAY?

DOESN'T YOUR HIGH SCHOOL HOLD A CULTURAL FESTIVAL SOON?
AH,
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.
ARE YOU GOING?
YEAH...
I WAS INVITED BY GUYS FROM MY SCHOOL
RATTLE
RATTLE
I'M IN AN ALL-BOYS SCHOOL.
LIKE THAT, OTHER SCHOOLS ARE A SENSITIVE TOPIC, EVERYONE...
SO,
IF THERE'S SOMEONE I KNOW THERE, I'VE BEEN TOLD TO INTRODUCE THEM.
I SAID I DIDN'T HAVE ANYONE TO INTRODUCE
....SEE YA, FURUYA.
.....THAT WAS UNCOMFORTABLE.

TOBA-KUN HASN'T CHANGED A BIT.
THE ONLY THING THAT CHANGED IS THAT HE GOT TALLER.
...YOU KNOW, FURUYA.
SOMEHOW, THE ATMOSPHERE AROUND YOU HAS CHANGED?
BECAUSE MY HAIR GREW LONGER, HUH?
.....

...WHY
DUNNO.
DID YOU CALL OUT TO ME?
TAP
TAP
.....
I'M GOING HOME.
WILL NEXT TIME BE THE CULTURAL FEST -IVAL...?
WELL, THEN
SEE YOU LATER.

I'VE ALREADY STOPPED WITH TRACK AND FIELD.

BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE ANY REASON TO CONTINUE NOW.

"Hey, Utako, which high school are you going to?"

"I see. But Satomi Gakuen doesn't have a track and field club."

"The school that my sister was attending. She promised me she'd hand down her bag to me."

I'M NOT RUNNING AWAY.
I THOUGHT IT WAS SOMETHING IMPORTANT FOR THE SAKE OF PROCEEDING FORWARD.
I'LL SHOW YOU THAT I RUN IN MY OWN WAY OF DOING THINGS...

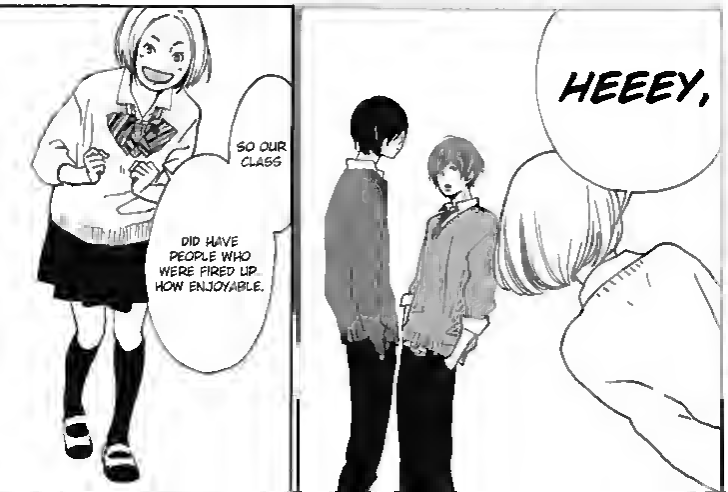
AS OF NOW, THE THINGS THE OTHER CLASSES HAVE CHOSEN ARE THIS
I'D LIKE IT IF WE COULD CHOOSE WITHIN ONE WEEK AS WELL.
MAKI, IF WE DON'T HURRY UP, ALL THE GOOD THINGS'LL BE TAKEN
I WANT TO START PREP-ARING ALREADY
...YOU KNOW, WE CAN'T WAIT FOR THAT GUY WHO DOESN'T COME TO SCHOOL TO GIVE HIS OPINION ANY-MORE.
!
CAN'T WE JUST CHOOSE ALREADY?
HE WON'T COME ANYWAY.
'CAUSE HE HASN'T COME UNTIL NOW.
WELL, HE WASN'T HERE FROM THE START.
大屋

RATTLE
WHAT ARE YOU ALL SAYING?
DID YOU LISTEN TO WHAT MAKI-CHAN WAS SAYING?
IF WE'RE TOO MUCH IN A HURRY, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE GOOD THINGS, YOU KNOW?
WE STILL HAVE ONE WEEK LEFT TO DECIDE.

I JUST WANT TO ENJOY MY -SELF.
IN THE FIRST PLACE, CAN WE EVEN ENJOY OUR -SELVES STRAIGHT -FORWARDLY IN THIS SITUATION WHERE WE ARE TRYING TO MAKE IT IN TIME?
IF EVERYONE WORKS TOGETHER, WE CAN DO WHAT -EVER IN THE REMAINING TIME
I DON'T REALLY MIND WAITING.
BUT IT'S BETTER IF IT'S AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
THAT'S WHY,
HARADA, YOU SHOULD BRING HIM HERE

WHAT DO YOU MEAN WITH HE WASN'T HERE?
BA-DUMP
SFX: DING-DONG
ALRIGHT
OK.
I'LL DO IT.
WE'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU, HARADA
HUH?
HUH?
ba-dump
ba-dump
ba-dump
ba-dump
ba-dump
ba-dump
ba-dump

It's like you unite everyone!
HARADA, YOU'RE MUCH MORE SUITABLE TO BE THE CLASS REP
THANKS FOR WHAT HAPPENED JUST NOW
HARADAA,
WHY DID YOU BECOME ALL INTENSE?
NAH.
I'M JUST AROUND FOR SUPPORT.
THEN, I WILL.
THEN, I WILL.
THEN, I WILL.
GO AHEAD, GO AHEAD


SO OUR CLASS
DID HAVE PEOPLE WHO WERE FIRED UP. HOW ENJOYABLE.
HEEEY,

HARADAA,
tap
tap
tap
tap
flap
flap
HEY, YOU KNOW,

THE PRINTOUTS ON INUI-KUN'S DESK ARE ALREADY A LOT, SO...
SHALL WE GO AND DELIVER THIS TOGETHER TOO?
I'VE DELIVERED THE PRINTOUTS TO INUI-KUN'S HOUSE ONCE BEFORE
I DEFINITELY WON'T GET LOST?
UMM,
I DON'T WANT TO GO ALONE, I GUESS?
.....

That's right! Delivering Utamaru to her house is another one of your tasks.
IT'S IN MY NEIGHBOURHOOD, SO LEAVE IT TO ME.
YEAH, RIGHT?
ALTOGETHER!
LET'S GO, LET'S GO,
NAOMARU!
Go, you go, Naomaru!!
PEACE IS THE BEST THING
WELL, WHAT -EVER YOU SAY,
IT'S PEACEFUL..
...KUKUKU..
Ho
HOHOHO...
WHAT?

thud
thud
thud
...I ALSO
WANT TO
HAVE FUN AT THE CULT -URAL FEST -IVAL
I WANT TO WALK AROUND WITH YOU A LOT.
I WANT TO LAUGH.

IF WE LAUGH WITH EVERYONE,
IF IT'S CHEERFUL,
WE'LL ENJOY OURSELVES.
I GOT IT.
rattle
rattle
WHAT'S WRONG?
fidget
fidget
AH, YEAH.
YOU SEE, A WHILE AGO, IN THE TRAIN,
I MET A CLASSMATE FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL.
HE WAS IN THE SAME CLUB AS I WAS, BUT REALLY, IT WAS JUST, FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE GRADUATION.

THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH NO CHANGE...
NOTHING CHANGED AT ALL...
I'M...SMILING.

HONESTLY...I DON'T UNDERSTAND VERY WELL WHAT KIND OF PERSON HE IS.
...TO GO TO INUI-KUN'S HOUSE ALL BY MYSELF ON MY OWN ACCORD.
YOU KNOW, IN THE FIRST PLACE
.....

I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU WITH THE DIRECTIONS.
DING
DONG
...
...I WONDER IF HE'S NOT AT HOME?
squeeze

.....
...YES?
AH,
EXCUSE ME.
WE'RE INUI-KUN'S CLASSMATES FROM SATOMI GAKUEN.
.....

ker-chak

Woah...
SO MANY PRETTY MANGAS!
Waa
THIS IS WHERE THE SUMMER RAIN TEAM DOES THEIR MAGIC.
AND SCANLATE ALL YOUR FAVORITE SHOUJO MANGA!
Welcome to Summer Rain!
WHAT?! THEN WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?!
YEAH, IT'S NOT LIKE WE GET PAID TO TRANSLATE MANGA FOR YOU.
AH, BUT WAIT. IF YOU WANT TO READ MORE CUTE SHOUJO MANGA, YOU HAVE TO HELP US SOMEHOW.
OKAY?
Summer Rain
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! THEY ACTUALLY DEDICATE THEIR TIME TO BRING MANGA JUST FOR ME!
I feel so bad for always asking them for faster updates
BUT YOU KNOW, YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOW JAPANESE TO HELP US.
INFACT, MOST OF THIS MANGA WORK REQUIRES WHO KNOW HOW TO USE PHOTOSHOP.
Even if you don't know how to use photoshop you can help out by donating as well!
SIGN ME UP!
YEAH, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GO TO OUR TUMBLR

Visit us at:
http://summer-rainscanlations.tumblr.com/